

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY FALSEHOODS REGARDING ROBERT WELCH'S "PRIVATE LETTER" ENTITLED "*THE POLITICIAN*"

Revised: March 2019

INTRODUCTION:

John Birch Society members rarely perform independent research about whatever matter is in dispute. Instead, they just repeat verbatim whatever the Birch Society tells them to believe.

The following *Report* presents one example to demonstrate how two JBS members (Charles Thompson and Amadeus Frison) chose to regurgitate whatever the Birch Society indoctrinates its members to believe. This example pertains to the 1950's manuscript (aka "*private letter*") written by JBS founder Robert Welch (entitled "*The Politician*") about the Eisenhower Administration.

On many occasions, I have posted messages online to refute the falsehoods which JBS members like Thompson and Frison incessantly present. In every case, JBS members like Thompson and Frison immediately resort to ad hominem slurs and insults against any JBS opponent.

Typically, Birchers declare that their critic is "*lying*" and presenting "*smears*" against the JBS. No matter what accumulation of factual evidence is presented, Birch Society members refuse to graciously acknowledge error. They also never are willing to acknowledge that maybe they need to perform some additional research – despite the fact that the Birch Society is incorporated (and describes itself) as an "*educational organization*".

Many JBS members resort to claiming that nobody has ever disproven anything contained in *The Politician*. In other words, JBS members want us to believe that *The Politician* is a "*factual*" publication.

However, Robert Welch clearly stated during a radio interview by Robert Siegfriest on August 3, 1960 over station WRIT in Milwaukee (12:01am to 1:00am), that *The Politician* was written by him between 1954 and 1958 but **"This manuscript does not try to prove anything. It merely reflects the personal beliefs of Welch and certainly could not stand up in a court of law."** [FBI-Milwaukee 100-13570, serial #3, 8/3/60 SA to SAC Milwaukee]. Furthermore, friends of Welch (such as Elizabeth Churchill Brown and Alfred Kohlberg) sent letters to Welch pointing out factual errors in his manuscript – but Welch never bothered to correct them.

In 2002, the JBS published a new edition of *The Politician*. This new edition is self-described on the back cover as **"the most devastating expose of the last century"** because it **"tells the bitter, but little known truth"** about our postwar history and the back cover statement concludes:

"But most importantly, *The Politician* exposes that 'conspiracy of gangsters' which even now is setting America's foreign and domestic policy."

The JBS no longer tries to dissociate itself from the substantive content of Welch's "*private letter*" because everything stated in *The Politician* has ALWAYS been part of official JBS ideology which is why the current 2002 edition is described on the back cover as presenting **"the truth"** about our postwar history as well as about the Eisenhower Administration's role in that history.

So the assertion that *The Politician* was entirely separate from the JBS -- is pure unadulterated fiction created by Welch and by the JBS to divert attention from the ACTUAL beliefs of the Society and to minimize adverse publicity.

Robert Welch (and his friends) were acutely aware of the damage that his comments about Eisenhower would have if they became publicly known. For example, in a 1959 letter to J.W. Clise of Seattle, Welch wrote:

"Our rather extreme precautions with regard to this document are not due to any worry on my part as to what might happen to myself...But many of my best informed friends feel that having the manuscript get into the wrong hands at the present time might do far more damage than good to the whole anti-Communist cause; whereas, by distributing it very carefully and quietly to quite a limited number of strongly patriotic leaders, so that the information in this document becomes a background to their own thinking on which their own actions are determined it can do considerable good." [2/25/59 letter to J.W. Clise, Seattle WA].

Notice Welch's observation in 1959 that the thinking of "**strongly patriotic leaders**" could be influenced **IF "the information in this document becomes a background to their own thinking..."**

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#### **CHARLES THOMPSON MESSAGE:**

<https://www.charlestoncitypaper.com/TheBattery/archives/2016/12/20/the-agenda-another-sc-bathroom-bill-filed-sc-electors-choose-trump-cofc-being-sued-by-alleged-rape-victim>

This story begins by me noticing two messages by Charles Thompson (see link above). I then responded to Mr. Thompson's message as shown below.

Readers should notice the qualitative difference between my messages and those of JBS members. I present specific verbatim quotations along with other factual evidence and I provide appropriate bibliographic footnotes ***whereas Birchers never present anything other than their personal opinions.***

#### **MY REPLY TO CHARLES THOMPSON:**

Mr. Thompson makes several totally illogical statements.

1. Ezra Taft Benson did not have access to classified information about the communist movement in the United States so it is totally absurd to assert any connection between Benson and his agreement with Robert Welch's personal opinions -- which often were nothing more than insinuations and innuendos contained in Welch's "*private letter*" entitled *The Politician*.

2. It is NOT "**factually incorrect**" (as Thompson claims) to state that the Birch Society "***believed Eisenhower was a Communist***".

The premises, arguments, themes, evidence, and conclusions contained in Welch's "***private letter***" have always been the premises, arguments, themes, evidence, and conclusions used by the Birch Society to educate its prospective members---**which is why...**

(a) Robert Welch sent copies of his unpublished manuscript to prospective JBS members during 1959 and 1960 and he then asked them to join the JBS based upon their reading and acceptance of the content of *The Politician* and

(b) In 2002, the JBS published a new edition of *The Politician*. This new edition is self-described on the back cover as the most devastating expose of the last century because it tells "***the bitter, but little known truth***" about our postwar history.

It is also why several JBS National Council members and JBS Coordinators stated that *The Politician* represented a "***higher truth***" which only certain JBS members could be trusted to understand.

(c) The Birch Society DID explicitly endorse *The Politician* after it was first published in 1963.

For example:

JBS Bulletin, 09/63:

Robert Welch declared that *The Politician* **"has now proved to be by far the most effective single help to our recruiting efforts."**

JBS Bulletin, 06/63

Welch encouraged JBS members to make *The Politician* **"the largest selling book in all history"**.

AND, in a 8/22/62 letter to Ezra Taft Benson in which he offered to send a copy of the unpublished edition of *The Politician* to Benson, Mr. Welch wrote to Benson:

**"For there are quite a number of outstanding Americans who are among our strongest and most unshakable supporters who had been made so by reading this document; and we have never really had any trouble with, or criticism from, those who have actually read the 'letter' themselves..."**

(d) In addition, in September 1960, the Office of Naval Intelligence prepared a summary report concerning JBS activities in the Chicago area.

Here is the pertinent excerpt from their Report which provides further evidence of how JBS officials used *The Politician* as a recruitment tool for the JBS when readers could be **"properly guided within the Society"**. [JBS National Council member Stillwell Conner's name is mis-spelled as "Connor"].

**"Stilwell J. Connor, 6657 N. Sioux Avenue, Chicago, Illinois and his wife have been particularly active Coordinators for the John Birch Society in the Chicago area and specifically at Glenview, Illinois. [Name redacted but refers to Father John D. Dussman] of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Glenview has cooperated with Society Coordinators by calling special parish meetings for the purpose of organizing local chapters of the Society and extending the use of church buildings for holding such meetings. One such meeting held on July 11, 1960 attracted about 200 citizens to hear Connor present the views of Robert Welch via sound films and literature."**

**"One member of the audience asked about Welch's book, *The Politician*. Connor vehemently denied the existence of such a book whereupon the interested spectator produced the book and proceeded to read appropriate quotations for the benefit of Connor and his audience. Connor then admitted the existence of the book but reportedly said that the book was only for those who were properly guided within the Society. Connor reportedly remarked that to make the book available to the general membership without proper guidance would be analogous to permitting a first year medical student attempt to cure cancer. On another occasion a potential recruit of the Society was disillusioned after reading *The Politician* and expressed her disgust to Connor who cautioned her that if she ever revealed the nature of the book he would promptly discredit her and deny the existence of the book and its contents. [District Intelligence Office, Ninth Naval District Chicago IL; 9/16/60 report captioned "**Ninth Naval District Subversive Trends of Current Interest, The John Birch Society**", pages 2-3].**

(e) Lastly, if you prepare a list of every person named and attacked in *The Politician*, you will discover that the Birch Society has always presented the same derogatory judgments about those individuals in their official publications – including in the 4-volume JBS publication entitled "**Biographical Dictionary of the Left**"

Another JBS member (and a frequent ascerbic critic of mine), Amadeus Frison, noticed my message above and he decided to reply to me in typical Bircher fashion – i.e. through defamatory attacks and insults. Oddly, Mr. Frison pretended to be interested in intellectual honesty.

## AMADEUS FRISON MESSAGE

<https://www.charlestoncitypaper.com/TheBattery/archives/2016/12/20/the-agenda-another-sc-bathroom-bill-filed-sc-electors-choose-trump-cofc-being-sued-by-alleged-rape-victim>

I will provide one example of Mr. Lazar's stunning dishonesty that I trust will be enough to fully discredit his deception in the mind of any intellectually honest reader.

Mr. Lazar wrote: "(c) *The Birch Society DID explicitly endorse The Politician after it was first published in 1963.*"

By that he meant to imply that the JBS officially took a position stating Eisenhower was an actual communist. What he conveniently omitted is that *The Politician* published in 1963 and endorsed by the JBS DID NOT ACCUSE EISENHOWER OF BEING A COMMUNIST. It offered that as one possibility to explain Eisenhower's actions.

Ask yourself, why would Mr. Lazar, who knows this very well, omit such an important fact in his post? The only answer is that he wants to mislead you. He cannot be trusted.

I could go on exposing his deception but I have a republic to save!

If you are interested in the facts, buy a copy of *The Politician* and be blown away.

Posted by Amadeus Frison on December 22, 2016 at 1:39 AM

## MY REPLY TO AMADEUS FRISON:

Unlike Amadeus, I will not resort to calling him dishonest but, regrettably, he simply is profoundly ignorant of the actual history of *The Politician*.

*The Politician* was originally written in 1954 as a typewritten unbound manuscript and it was periodically revised. The last revision (before publication in 1963) was produced in June 1958 and circulated starting in August 1958. I have a copy of that edition and I have donated it to Internet Archive's website. There is no copy in any U.S. library of that original "*private letter*".

Amadeus says the Birch Society never called Ike a Communist but merely offered that as "*one possibility*".

Well, that simply is not true. As I previously pointed out, Robert Welch sent letters to prospective JBS members in 1959 and 1960 and in those letters he told the recipients to read his "*private letter*" (which was 287 pages in length) and then join the Birch Society to do something about "*the conspiracy*" described in his letter. In other words, read and believe the arguments presented and then join the JBS.

In that original manuscript, Welch made it very explicit that he considered Eisenhower to be a Communist traitor. That is why Welch entitled Chapter 17, "*The Word Is Treason*".

In that original manuscript, Welch declared:

**"For the sake of honesty, however, I want to confess here my own conviction that Eisenhower's motivation is more ideological than opportunistic. Or, to put it bluntly, I personally think that he has been sympathetic to ultimate Communist aims, realistically willing to use Communist means to help them achieve their goals, knowingly accepting and abiding by Communist orders, and consciously serving the Communist conspiracy for all of his adult life."** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 266]

and

**"But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 267]

However, one does not need to rely upon just those passages. Here are some other passages which reveal Welch's actual position re: Eisenhower:

In discussing Eisenhower's appointment of Philip C. Jessup, Robert Welch refers to Eisenhower as **"he and his fellow Communists"** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 214]

In discussing Eisenhower's appointment of James B. Conant, Robert Welch refers to the appointment of Conant **"made by a Communist President"** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 221]

and

**"In my opinion the chances are very strong that Milton Eisenhower is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior and boss within the Communist Party."** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 210]

**"We think that an objective survey of Eisenhower's associates and appointments shows clever Communist brains, aided by willing Communist hands, always at work to give the Communists more power, and to weaken the anti-Communist resistance."** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 239]

**"For Eisenhower and his Communist bosses and their pro-Communist appointees are gradually taking over our whole government right under the noses of the American people."** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 238-239]

Welch also refers to Eisenhower's actions in Europe **"which show his sympathies with the Communist cause and friendship for the Kremlin tyrants."** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 263]

Furthermore, apparently Amadeus did not read the section of my previous message which referred to a 1960 Office of Naval Intelligence Report regarding JBS recruitment activities in the Chicago area.

As that report reveals, a JBS National Council member (Stillwell J. Conner in Chicago) at first LIED about the existence of *The Politician* but then had to acknowledge it existed after someone in his audience brought a copy to that recruitment meeting.

Conner then admitted that *The Politician* was given to prospective JBS members when they could be **"properly guided within the Society"** -- referring to the JBS. So, obviously, the JBS was endorsing the themes, arguments and conclusions contained in the 1950's manuscript -- and the major theme and argument and conclusion was **that Eisenhower was a Communist!**

There are many additional ways to disprove the conclusion stated by Amadeus.

Lets begin with a comment made by Robert Welch in *The Politician*, Chapter 16, which discusses Eisenhower associates and appointments (pages 227-228 of the unpublished version and page 238 of the 1963 published edition and page 214 of the 2002 published edition):

Even Welch acknowledges the cumulative effect of all his statements, innuendos, and insinuations in *The Politician*. Welch wrote:

"So we appear to be calling almost everybody a Communist, merely because we have no reason to be mentioning the good men in Washington, in all branches of the government, who have no Communist sympathies whatever."

So, the first question for Amadeus is:

WHY did Welch acknowledge that the first 16 chapters made it appear that "**we appear to be calling almost everybody a Communist**"?

Whom, precisely, does Amadeus think Welch was referring to as a Communist -- even in the first PUBLISHED edition which the Birch Society promoted and sold in its bookstores?

As we keep that in mind, let's also remember that the title of the next chapter clarifies Welch's intent with respect to the thrust of his argument as contained in the first 16 chapters. Chapter 17 is entitled: "**The Word Is Treason.**"

One more critically important point:

There is NOTHING contained in *The Politician* which has not been part of core Birch Society ideology since its inception in December 1958.

In the 1963 published edition which excises the comments on pages 266-268 which I quoted earlier, there is a footnote on page 278 (footnote 2) and its text appears on pages cxxxviii-cxxxix at the back of the book. That text is as follows:

"At this point in the original manuscript there was one paragraph in which I expressed my own personal belief as to the most likely explanation of the events and actions with this document had tried to bring into focus. In a confidential letter, neither published nor offered for sale, and restricted to friends who were expected to respect the confidence but offer me in exchange their own points of view, this seemed entirely permissible and proper. It does not seem so for an edition of the letter that is now to be published and given, probably, fairly wide distribution. So that paragraph, and two explanatory paragraphs, connected with it, have been omitted here. And the reader is left entirely free to draw his own conclusions."

Welch's explanation above for excising 3 paragraphs from the original unpublished version makes very little sense. The themes, arguments, evidence, premises, and conclusions contained in *The Politician* differ not one iota from themes, arguments, evidence, premises, and conclusions in official Birch Society literature from its inception. (See below)

**Both** attribute all of our nation's adversities and setbacks to conscious deliberate actions by numerous prominent Americans in Administrations since FDR [or even Wilson!] occupied the White House. Explanations of motivation always center around "**treason**" and "**conspiracy**" by numerous noxious, subversive, and unprincipled characters.

Consequently, the most reasonable inference for why Welch felt compelled to eliminate 3 paragraphs from the 1963 published edition of TP, is the same reason why Welch initially falsely claimed that his "*private letter*" had nothing to do with the JBS, namely, Welch thought excising the "*offending*" paragraphs would diminish negative publicity and retain those members (or prospective members) of the Birch Society who might be offended by

such an unsparing denunciation and description of Eisenhower as an outright traitor and "***dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy.***"

To repeat Welch's rationale from page 267 of the unpublished version, he was trying to accommodate those persons who could not "**go all the way with me...to the final logical conclusion.**"

Amadeus is like many other members or supporters of the Birch Society. He merely parrots whatever the JBS tells him. But he never performs independent research which is why he then uses ad hominem slurs and innuendos rather than engage in factual discussion.

By all means do as Amadeus suggests -- "**buy a copy of *The Politician***" and then see the vicious and malicious statements made by Robert Welch about virtually our entire national political leadership.

*The Politician* is merely an earlier version of the screed which Welch presented to the first meeting of the JBS National Council in January 1960 (when Eisenhower was still our President). I quote the relevant excerpt below.

COMPARE what Welch told his National Council (the indisputable official position of the JBS) to what is presented in *The Politician*. There is no materially important difference:

**"From a careful and realistic study of the mountainous pile of evidence that is there for all to see, certain terrifying conclusions are objectively inescapable. Among them are:**

**(1) The Communists are winning their large victories, as they always have, through the cumulative effect of small gains;**

**(2) They make these gains chiefly through the conniving assistance of many of the very diplomats and officials who are supposed to be opposing them;**

**(3) Communist influences are now in almost complete working control of our government;**

**(4) And hence, the United States Government is today, as it has been for many years, the most important and powerful single force promoting the world-wide Communist advance."**

Furthermore, according to the minutes of this meeting, Robert Welch stated:

**"Today, gentlemen, I can assure you, without the slightest doubt in my own mind that the takeover at the top is, for all practical purposes, virtually complete. Whether you like it or not, or whether you believe it or not, our Federal Government is already, literally in the hands of the Communists."** [Ibid, page 2]

**"In our two states with the largest population, New York and California already the two present Governors are almost certainly actual Communists. Our Congress now contains a number of men like Adam Clayton Powell of New York and Charles Porter of Oregon, who are certainly actual Communists, and plenty more who are sympathetic to Communist purposes for either ideological or opportunistic reasons."** [Ibid, page 7]

[Note: the reference to Governors refers to Edmund G. Brown of California and Nelson Rockefeller of New York.]

**"In the Senate, there are men like Stephen Young of Ohio, and Wayne Morse of Oregon, McNamara of Michigan, and Clifford Case of New Jersey and Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota and Estes Kefauver of Tennessee and John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, whom it is utter folly to think of as just liberals. Every one of those men is either an actual Communist or so completely a Communist sympathizer or agent that it makes no practical difference."** [Ibid, page 8]

**"Our Supreme Court, dominated by Earl Warren and Felix Frankfurter and Hugo Black, is so visibly pro-Communist that no argument is even needed. And our federal courts below that level are in many cases just as bad."** [Ibid, page 8]



"Our State Department is loaded with Communists from top to bottom, to the extent that our roll call of Ambassadors almost sounds like a list somebody has put together to start a Communist front." [Ibid, page 8]

"It is estimated from many reliable sources that from 70% to 90% of the responsible personnel in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare are Communists. Our Central Intelligence Agency under Allen Dulles is nothing more or less than an agency to promote Communism throughout the world. Almost all the other Departments are loaded with Communists and Communist sympathizers. And this generalization most specifically does include our whole Defense Department." [Ibid, page 8]

Statements like these are one of the major reasons that senior FBI officials (including Director J. Edgar Hoover) concluded that the JBS was a major impediment to factually educating the public about the communist movement and why they described the JBS as "**right-wing extremist**", "**irrational**", "**irresponsible**" and "**lunatic fringe**".

Posted by **Ernie Lazar** on December 22, 2016 at 11:14 AM

### **Postscript in reply to Amadeus:**

For those readers who are not familiar with how Birch Society members and supporters behave:

1. The comments by Amadeus are fairly typical of how Birchers present their viewpoints. Very rarely does any Bircher enter a discussion in an amicable and friendly manner.

2. Typically, Birchers assume the worst about their perceived opponents or critics. Instead of starting a friendly conversation by asking questions or presenting their best case for whatever viewpoint they subscribe to, you will discover that they immediately malign the integrity and character (and often the patriotism) of their critics -- as Amadeus did with me.

3. As I mentioned in my previous message, most Birchers (like Amadeus) merely parrot whatever the Birch Society tells them to believe. It is extremely rare for any Bircher to perform independent research (i.e. using NON-Birch Society sources).

What also needs to be considered is that the Birch Society does NOT allow outside independent researchers to have access to its archives for historical research.

4. Consequently, no matter what JBS-related subject is being disputed, the ONLY possible way to resolve whatever is in dispute is for someone to have the time, resources, ability, and inclination to discover what are often very obscure and/or costly sources of factual data.

For example: no ordinary layman could possibly debate Amadeus about *The Politician's* history or present a factual summary regarding how the Birch Society used the original "*private letter*" manuscript in 1959 and 1960 to recruit and/or educate new JBS members unless that layman had access to (1) JBS archives or (2) JBS National Council member personal papers which are archived at various colleges and universities around our country and (3) FBI files--many of which are now no longer available or very difficult and expensive to obtain.

5. Furthermore, keep in mind that the above information refers to only ONE subject in dispute. Amadeus and his allies have a bottomless pit of grievances and criticisms which they are prepared to unload onto any person who dares to dispute their beliefs.



6. Lastly, it should be kept in mind that people like Amadeus are not genuinely interested in facts or truth.

Instead, their objective is indoctrination. They believe that they are in possession of an Ultimate Final Truth (UFT) and it is their purpose in life to share their UFT with everyone they can reach.

If the target of their propaganda disagrees or expresses skepticism or criticism then Amadeus and other Birchers will immediately engage in libelous attacks upon their perceived opponent. Usually, Birchers describe all criticism of the JBS as "**smear attacks**" -- regardless of whatever evidence is produced.

In short -- Amadeus and his fellow Birchers believe that the JBS is infallible and they will NEVER acknowledge that the Birch Society has made grave errors in its analyses or conclusions. In addition, these Birchers will circulate totally false information because it expresses their accumulated anger, grievance, and sense of impotence about our modern history.

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### **SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Another debate tactic often used by Birchers concerning the themes and arguments presented in *The Politician* is to suggest that Robert Welch offered multiple possible and relatively benign explanations for Eisenhower's motives and behavior.

You can see the beginning of this stratagem in Amadeus's message when he refers to options for describing Eisenhower motivations as only "**one possibility**".

**Let's quickly dispose of the falsehood that Welch proposed a benign interpretation of Ike's motives.**

On page 278 of the published version of *The Politician*, Welch summarizes, from his perspective, the only two possible interpretations regarding Eisenhower:

**"The role he has played, as described in all the pages above, would fit just as well into one theory as the other; that he is a mere stooge, or that he is a Communist assigned the specific job of being a political front man."**

Oxford English Dictionary definition of "**stooge**":

**"A person whose function is merely to carry out another's directions; an unquestioningly loyal or obsequious subordinate, a lackey; a person used as an instrument by someone behind the scenes, a cat's paw"**

**However, let's review the appropriate context for Welch's analysis.**

On page 279 of the published version of *The Politician*, Welch discusses what he considered to be the three stages by which Communists came to control the U.S. Presidency.

In stages 1 and 2, FDR and Truman were "**used**" by Communists. In Truman's case, according to Welch, he was used "**with his knowledge and acquiescence, as the price he consciously paid for their making him President.**"

**Then, with respect to Eisenhower:**

**"In the third stage the Communists have installed in the Presidency a man who, for whatever reasons, appears**

**intentionally to be carrying forward Communist aims...With regard to this third man, Eisenhower, it is difficult to avoid raising the question of deliberate treason.” ...**

As mentioned, this quotation is from page 279 of the 1963 published edition of *The Politician*. However, the **original** formulation of this comment from the unpublished 1950's manuscript of *The Politician* is quoted below. Keep in mind that this unpublished version was loaned to prospective JBS members by Robert Welch in 1959 and 1960 as a means of convincing them to join the Birch Society. In other words, this is what Welch wanted them to believe!

**"In the third stage, in my own firm opinion, the Communists have one of their own actually in the Presidency. For this third man, Eisenhower, there is only one possible word to describe his purposes and his actions. That word is treason."** [*The Politician*, unpublished version, page 268.].

Obviously, that is why Welch decided to entitle Chapter 17, ***"The Word Is Treason"***.

**Lastly, there is this telling comment by Welch in both the unpublished manuscript AND in the published 1963 edition:**

**"To paraphrase Elizabeth Churchill Brown, 'the only enemies the American people have to fear are the enemies in their midst'. The most conspicuous and injurious of these enemies today, I believe, is named Dwight David Eisenhower. He is either a willing agent, or an integral and important part, of a conspiracy of gangsters determined to rule the world at any cost."** ... [*The Politician*, published version, page 291]

#### **USUAL DEFINITION OF "ENEMY":**

**"One who feels hatred toward, intends injury to, or opposes the interests of another; a foe."**

How would YOU interpret a publication which linked YOUR name to words like **"enemy"**, **"traitor"**, **"treason"**, **"Communist"** and **"serving the Communist conspiracy for all of his adult life."** ??

#### **IMPACT OF ROBERT WELCH'S BOOK**

In November 1965, the Republican National Finance Committee received a letter from someone who described himself as **"a John Birch Society section leader"**. This Bircher responded to a financial contribution solicitation letter from the GOP. The GOP Finance Committee forwarded the letter to Brig. Gen. Robert L. Schultz (the Executive Assistant to former President Eisenhower). Schultz then sent the letter to the FBI.

**The letter from the JBS Section Leader declared that:**

**"I am not a Ray Bliss fan or a Dwight D. I. admirer. You see I have read the *The Politician*! And personally I think the bastard should be shot for treason. I am dedicating my life to the exposure of said individual; already have sold hundred [sic] of *The Politician*. I am a John Birch Section Leader and I do not appreciated [sic] one bit the remarks made by Bliss, Nixon etc in relation to the Society. I want a Conservative party not a Liberal one. That is the Democratic party. My life and fortune is dedicated to this cause. P.S. And how the John Birch Society is growing!"** [FBI HQ 62-81742, serial #296; J. Edgar Hoover reply to Brig. Gen. Robert L. Schultz]

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